

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: OVIP - ROBINSON, CHARLES

SUBJECT: ARRANGEMENTS FOR UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON'S VISIT TO
BRUSSELS

REF: A) STATE 44036 B) EC BRUSSELS 1715 C) STATE 46077

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THIS CABLE INCLUDES INFORMATION ON THE SUBJECTS
WHICH ARE LIKELY TO ARISE IN UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON'S DISCUSSIONS
WITH THE EC COMMISSION, AS WELL AS DETAILS ON SCHEDULING AND
ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS AS THEY HAVE BEEN MADE SO FAR.
END SUMMARY.

2. SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES: FOLLOWING ARE THE SUBJECTS LIKELY TO BE
COVERED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE EC COMMISSION:

A. OVERALL US/EC RELATIONS, POLITICAL AS WELL AS ECONOMIC, WILL
FIGURE IN THE SOAMES LUNCH.

B. MTNS. BOTH SOAMES AND GUNDELACH WILL WANT TO TALK ABOUT BROAD
ASPECTS AND MANAGEMENT OF THE MTNS IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR OVERALL
RELATIONS.

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C. CHEESE. SOAMES' OFFICE SAYS ONE SPECIFIC BILATERAL ISSUE -- EC CHEESE SUBSIDIES AND POSSIBLE US COUNTERVAILING -- WILL BE RAISED.

(SOAMES MENTIONED THIS PROBLEM TO AMBASSADOR GREENWALD IN A BRIEF ENCOUNTER MARCH 5.) THE JOINT EFFORT TO AVOID A "CHEESE WAR" WAS INITIATED IN A SOAMES/KISSINGER EXCHANGE IN BRUSSELS LAST JULY AND DOAMES FEELS PERSONALLY COMMITTED ON THIS ONE AND HOPES NO FINAL DECISION WILL BE TAKEN BY THE USG BEFORE HE HAS A CHANCE TO TALK TO UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON.

D. LDCE AND COMMODITIES. THE INTERTWINED SUBJECTS OF RAW MATERIALS POLICY AND RELATIONS WITH LDCE WILL BE THE MAIN TOPIC AT A WORKING DINNER.

E. GATT/ACPS. DESPITE THE COMPLEXITY OF THE DETAILS, THE COMMISSION TELLS US THAT SOAMES OR GUNDELACH WILL RAISE THE QUESTION OF GATT-HANDLING OF THE LOME CONVENTION (ACPS). THE COMMISSION FEELS THE MATTER MUST GO TO GATT SOON; THAT ADVANCE US/EC UNDERSTANDING ON THE HANDLING OF THIS ISSUE IS POLITICALLY IMPORTANT; AND THAT APART FROM THE UNDER SECRETARY'S VISIT, THERE WILL BE NO OTHER OCCASION TO RAISE THIS AT SENIOR-LEVEL WITH THE US.

F. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE. FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORLD RR FOOD CONFERENCE, PARTICULARLY THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GRAINS RESERVE PROPOSALS AND THE MTN, COULD COME UP WITH SOAMES AND WOULD BE THE CENTRAL SUBJECT IF A MEETING CAN BE ARRANGED WITH LARDINOIS.

G. ENERGY. WHILE WE DO NOT EXPECT THAT ENERGY COOPERATION WILL BE A PRINCIPAL SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION, COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT SIMONET IS EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE SOAMES LUNCHEON. THEREFORE, CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE QUESTION, INCLUDING PRODUCER/CONSUMER RELATIONS, WILL PROBABLY ARISE.

3. SCHEDULE:

THE FOLLOWING IS THE SCHEDULE ARRANGED SO FAR:

THURSDAY, MARCH 13:

1845 ARRIVE BRUSSELS VIA SABENA 756 FROM
COLOGNE.

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2015 DINNER GIVEN BY AMBASSADOR GREENWALD
FOR SENIOR COMMISSION OFFICIALS
RESPONSIBLE FOR LDC ISSUES.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14:

1130 MEETING WITH COMMISSIONER GUNDELACH.

1315 LUNCHEON GIVEN BY SIR CHRISTOPHER
SOAMES WITH ATTENDANCE BY OTHER
COMMISSIONERS AND OFFICIALS. (FINAL

GUEST LIST NOT YET KNOWN.)

SATURDAY, MARCH 15: 0930 AM DEPARTURE BY PAN AM 101 FOR NEW YORK.

4. IN ADDITION, THE MISSION IS SEEKING AN APPOINTMENT WITH COMMISSIONER LARDINOIS (PRESIDENT ORTOLI AND COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON WILL UNFORTUNATELY BE OUT OF TOWN). THE EMBASSY IS SEEKING AN APPOINTMENT WITH A SENIOR BELGIAN OFFICIAL.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. THE UNDER SECRETARY WILL BE MET AT THE AIRPORT ON HIS ARRIVAL AND WILL HAVE A CAR AVAILABLE FOR HIS USE DURING HIS STAY IN BRUSSELS.

6. AMBASSADOR GREENWALD IS PLEASED THAT THE UNDER SECRETARY ACCEPTS HIS INVITATION TO STAY AT THE RESIDENCE MARCH 13 AND 14. RESERVATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR MESSRS. LINTON AND LEVINE AT THE ALBERGO HOTEL.

7. THIS CABLE HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH THE EMBASSY. GREENWALD

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